Legislative Fiscal Bureau
Fiscal Note

HF 2201 - DNA Test for Convicted Felons (LSB 5430 HV)
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Fiscal Note Version - New

Description

House File 2201 would require all felons to submit a physical specimen for DNA profiling. The Bill also provides a contingent effective date.

Assumptions

1. Beginning July 1, 2002, DNA profiling will be required for all felons.
2. In 2001, the Department of Public Safety collected 804 DNA samples. Most samples collected were required under the Iowa Code with very few being collected on judges' orders.
3. In FY 2001, 8,044 offenders were convicted of felonies and are not covered under the current DNA profiling provisions.
4. In FY 2001, 2,052 felons were released from prison and are not covered under current DNA profiling provisions.
5. All felons, on average, serve about two years prior to release from prison.
6. Approximately, 3,200 additional DNA samples would be collected over the next two years from persons exiting prison.
7. The Board of Parole is required to order DNA profiling for felons that they release on parole or work release if a sample has not already been taken.
8. Felons who flat time out (serve their sentence) of prison or have their sentence expire are not required to give a DNA sample under this Bill.
9. The Justice Data Warehouse was unable to determine the number of repeat felons that would not be required to resubmit a DNA sample, and therefore, the fifth-year estimate may be overstated.
10. The Department of Corrections will incur approximately 15 minutes per inmate to collect the DNA sample and process the paperwork. The DNA sample will be collected at the time of admission to the Iowa Medical Classification Center.
11. The Department of Public Safety will pay for all specimen collection kits and distribute them to the appropriate agency. The cost per kit is $40. If the Department of Public Safety contracts for DNA lab work, the cost would increase by $10 per kit. The kits collect blood and not saliva.
12. Three additional Public Safety staff and additional equipment are required. The processing of 10,000 samples will require repeat analysis for quality control. There may be as many as 14,000 analyses conducted on 11,000 samples.
13. The cost to the CBC Districts is unknown.
14. Current law and this Bill do not apply to persons receiving a deferred judgment.

Correctional Impact

In the first and second year of implementation, there would be 10,100 additional DNA samples collected, compared to the DNA samples collected under current provisions. In the fifth year, there would be 8,000 DNA samples collected, compared to the DNA samples collected under current provisions. The number of repeat felons who would have already given a DNA sample cannot be determined at this time, and therefore, the fifth-year estimate may be overstated.

Fiscal Impact

House File 2201 will result in increased General Fund expenditures as follows:

State General Fund	FY 2002	FY 2003	FY 2007
Department of Corrections			
1.0 FTE Lab Technician	$ 49,000	$ 49,000	$ 49,000
Department of Public Safety			
Lab Kits	404,000	404,000	322,000
Equipment	150,000	0	0
3.0 FTE Positions	210,000	210,000	210,000
Total Department of Public Safety	764,000	614,000	532,000
Total General Fund	$ 813,000	$ 663,000	$ 581,000

This Bill contains a contingent effective date making the Bill effective only if sufficient funds are appropriated or received to pay the annual cost of the Bill.

Sources

Department of Human Rights, Criminal and Juvenile Justice Planning Division
Department of Corrections
Department of Public Safety

/s/ Dennis C Prouty

February 6, 2002